Arresting migration to urban areas

*59. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any policy to make life in rural areas livable and also provide employment there, so that the inflow to urban area as is arrested; and

(b) if not, the other measures undertaken to help the urban poor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Government of India has adopted a two pronged approach for tackling rural poverty in the country: firstly by providing basic amenities in rural areas through schemes like Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Bharat Nirman, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme, National Rural Health Mission, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme; and secondly by targeted employment generation schemes like Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), and the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS).

(b) In the urban areas, the Government is implementing the Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) for addressing the income generation/livelihood needs of the urban poor living below the poverty line. The scheme of Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) strives to provide gainful employment to the urban unemployed and underemployed poor by firstly, encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have not studied beyond 9th standard and, secondly, by providing wage employment for construction of socially and economically useful public assets. Further, the shelter and basic amentities requirements of the urban poor are addressed through the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM). The sub-Mission of Basic Service for Urban Poor (BSUP) under the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) caters to 63 identified Cities and Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) applies to cities/ towns other than the 63 identified cities. The Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) stipulates and provision of education, health and social security benefits to the urban poor through convergence of all relevant programmes of the Central and State Governments at the urban local body level.

ISRO's help to Israel in launching satellite

*60. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Israel recently availed of the expertise/facilities of ISRO for launching their satellite into the space;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the process of the mutual negotiation which culminated into the final launching in chronological order;

(c) the terms of the service;

(d) whether the expertise/facilities of ISRO are offered to other countries as well as commercial venture/bilateral agreements;

(e) whether any protocol is adhered to necessitating prior disclosure of the purpose of a proposed satellite, etc.;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the activities proposed for the Israeli satellite?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (g) On 21st January, 2008, India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle, PSLV-C10